

which allows dealers to shift firearms from their business inventory to their personal collections and then sell those guns without performing a background check. This proposal deserves serious consideration to evaluate whether it will help to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and those prohibited under law from possessing a gun.

I urge my colleagues to support commonsense gun safety legislation.

DEWINE NEXT GENERATION LIGHTING INITIATIVE

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I am a cosponsor of the DeWine amendment to the Interior appropriations bill and am pleased to rise in support of it. The Next Generation Lighting Initiative is a research initiative designed to promote new, alternative, highly efficient technology for lighting to save energy and money, and reduce emissions. It would leapfrog over current technology. We use essentially the same light bulbs that Thomas Edison invented over 90 years ago. If successful, the Next Generation Lighting Initiative would make available new solid-state lighting that would be ten times more efficient than today's incandescent light bulbs. The concept is similar to fuel cells that also would leapfrog to a technology of the future and reduce our dependence on the traditional internal combustion engine.

I joined 22 other Senators in signing a letter to Appropriations Chairman BYRD and Ranking Member BURNS to support \$30 million in increased funding for this new lighting technology research initiative.

The current Interior appropriations bill provides \$4 million for this Initiative. The amendment being offered today would increase this funding to \$10 million. While a sizable increase, this \$10 million would still be only 33 percent of what we had initially sought.

Specifically, the increased funding is needed to overcome pre-competitive research hurdles associated with white light illumination from solid-state devices. It is important to fund new, clean energy technologies to provide sustainable economic development for the future.

Lighting consumes about 20 percent of the energy generated in the United States. Over the next 20 years, this new next generation lighting technology could reduce global electricity usage for lighting by 50 percent and reduce total global electricity consumption by 10 percent.

Many groups and Members support increased funding for this important initiative. Mr. President, I thank my colleagues from Ohio and New Mexico for their work on this effort, and the chairman of the Appropriations Committee for his assistance and for his good work on this bill.

DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN PROGRAM ACT OF 2002

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I am pleased to have joined with Senator JEFFORDS, as well as Senators LEAHY and SCHUMER, in introducing the "Daniel Patrick Moynihan Lake Champlain Basin Program Act of 2002."

I thank Chairman JEFFORDS, with whom I have the honor and pleasure of serving on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, for introducing this legislation and naming it in tribute to my predecessor, New York Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Senator JEFFORDS is a great Chairman, a great environmental leader, and a great supporter of this natural and cultural resource that our states share—the Lake Champlain Basin and the Champlain Valley. I am proud also to be a sponsor of legislation authored by Senator JEFFORDS to establish the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership.

The Lake Champlain Basin is a unique and beautiful region, bounded by the Green Mountains of Vermont and the Adirondack Mountains of New York. It is a place of majestic mountain peaks; deep, blue waters; and abundant cultural, historic, and natural resources. The Lake is the sixth largest natural freshwater lake in the United States, and home to a many species of fish, birds and other wildlife.

We need to protect and enhance the environmental integrity and the social and economic benefits of the Lake Champlain basin. And that is precisely what we aim to do through this legislation, which will authorize \$55 million over the next 5 years for this purpose.

That this legislation and this program are being named after Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan is a most fitting tribute. Senator Moynihan was, and still is, a great advocate of Lake Champlain and the Champlain Valley, whether supporting the rich heritage and history of the area, or protecting the environmental quality of the Lake and Basin.

Senator Moynihan appreciates that the environmental quality of the Lake and basin are key to the vitality of the area as a whole, and worked tirelessly during his tenure to protect the health of the basin. Naming the Lake Champlain Basin Program Act and the program itself after Senator Moynihan is a fitting tribute to his efforts to ensure that this natural treasure will survive for generations to come.

As we all remember, it was in 1990 that Senator Moynihan joined with Senator JEFFORDS, as I am joining with him today, in sponsoring the invaluable Lake Champlain Special Designation Act. The act outlined an unprecedented collaboration among broad interest groups to protect the environmentally sensitive Lake Champlain basin, as well as spark recreational activity and economic revitalization in the basin area. Under the act, the Lake Champlain Management Conference

was created and charged with developing a comprehensive plan for pollution prevention and water quality restoration.

The legislation that we are introducing builds upon the Lake Champlain Special Designation Act of 1990, in which Senator Moynihan played a key role during the 101st Congress. It also builds upon the plan that came out of that 1990 legislation, entitled "Opportunities for Action." The plan was approved by the Lake Champlain Steering Committee earlier this year and is the guiding document for this new legislation, which will provide new and important resources for countries in Vermont and for Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Warren and Washington counties in New York State.

This is important environmental legislation, but it is also important economic development legislation for key areas of upstate New York. Therefore, I am proud to sponsor this legislation with Chairman JEFFORDS, and to name this legislation after my illustrious and esteemed predecessor, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

SUPPORT OF RENEWABLE FUELS PROVISION

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise to urge the House-Senate Energy Bill conferees to resist any efforts from House Republican conferees to alter or weaken the renewable fuels standard that was included in the Senate energy bill. The new standard was crafted in a consensus manner and supported by a strong majority in the Senate. It must remain intact in the conference report.

Earlier this Congress, I introduced a bill with Senator CHUCK HAGEL of Nebraska, the Renewable Fuels for Energy Security Act of 2001, S. 1006, to ensure future growth for ethanol and biodiesel through the creation of a new, renewable fuels content standard in all motor fuel produced and used in the United States. The framework of this bill was included in the Senate energy bill, requiring that 5 billions gallons of transportation fuel be comprised of renewable fuel by 2012, nearly a tripling of the current ethanol production. While the House of Representatives version of the bill did not include a renewable fuels standard, this issue was thoroughly debated on the Senate floor during consideration of the energy bill. Several amendments were offered to weaken or eliminate the renewable fuels standard but all of those efforts were soundly defeated. And for good reason: increased renewable fuel production lessens our dependence upon foreign oil, strengthens energy security, increases farm income, creates jobs, helps the environment, helps our international balance of trade, and would lower annual federal farm payments by \$6.6 billion.

In addition, the new standard boosts economic growth in rural America. I do not need to convince anyone in South